

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT SLD---Preparations for Outlawing of
Party in Western Sectors of Berlin

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Designation of "Patenkreise" for western Kreise

- a. SED preparations for the outlawing of their party in the western sectors of Berlin are continuing. The latest move has been to designate a "Paten", or foster, Kreis in the Soviet sector of Berlin for each western sector Kreis. At present the chief responsibility of the Patenkreise is for each to make an office room available within its headquarters for the use of the western sector Kreis which it has adopted. These rooms are to be completely furnished and provided with telephone service. In so far as possible the furniture and office equipment are to be supplied by the western sector Kreis concerned, since this provides a possibility to store items which might otherwise later be confiscated if left in the western sectors.
- b. Some important files--in particular personnel files--are to be transferred to the Soviet sector offices.
- c. Although this is an innovation in detail, the idea of "Patenkreise" was first developed in Berlin during the "Volksbegehren" (popular referendum) propaganda campaign in the spring of 1948. At that time, propaganda supplies and material support were given the western sectors by SED Kreise in the Soviet sector or in the Soviet zone bordering Berlin. Some use of the same system was also made at the time of the city election in the fall of 1948.

2. Selection of "stay behind" Communists

- a. In addition to the measures outlined above, each western SED Kreis has been instructed to select suitable party members for release from official party work. These persons are to be selected by the 1st and 2nd Chairmen of the City Districts, in consultation with the Kreis "Personalobleute", and

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rerorted to Kreis headquarters for further instructions. They are to be chosen on the basis of ideological adherence, organizational ability, physical and mental versatility, and non-proletarian, or concealed proletarian, appearance.

- b. Party members so selected will be freed from official and overt party contacts, and will avoid appearing as Communists. Their internal party contacts, however, will be strengthened, and an effort will be made to educate them in all phases of party work on the Kreis level.

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